

States see decrease in clowns

SHANE STEELEY
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

While membership in several clown organizations has dwindled in recent years, many professionals say there are still people clowning around.

According to Bob Neal, the vice president of the World Clown Association, the numbers mentioned in recent articles and a membership drop off from 3,500 members to 2,400 members in the last decade does not mean clowning is in decline.

"There really isn't (a shortage)," Neal said. "Young people just don't join clubs like ours."

Clowns are not in short supply, especially ones who want to learn how to hone their craft from some of the best in the business.

"The last time Ringling Brothers had clown college openings, 500 people applied," Neal said. "Only 14 ended up being accepted."

A common phobia many people have is a fear of clowns. This fear, in Neal's view, is common due to poorly trained clowns and the fact that it is easier to feign fear of clowns than to enjoy them.

"Just cause you put on makeup and a red nose doesn't make you a clown. When you are talented, it can alleviate the fear of clowns," Neal said. "It is just cool to say you are afraid, but when they see how cool it is or something I am doing, they don't walk away."

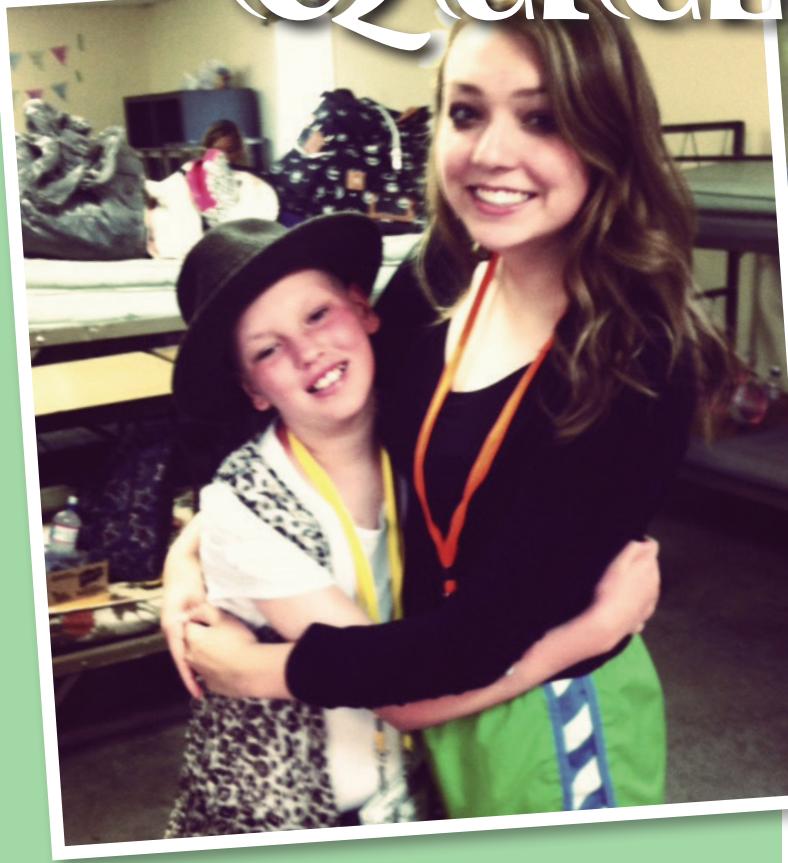
Many people get into clowning for different reasons: a second income, to help people working for a hospital or police department or to entertain. Shawn Wake, performance facilities manager and a graduate of Clown College, feels the field of clowning is having some issues competing against other media.

"The society is so driven by TV and multimedia, the novelty of a live activity has diminished," Wake said. "Why go through the training to be a clown when you can be an idiot on YouTube and be an instant sensation?"

When people think of clowns, they usually think of birthday parties where someone makes a few balloon animals, but being a clown is a much bigger spectacle than that.

"Clowning requires training and dedication," Wake said. "You got to do slapstick, make jokes; you got to do a show."

Camp Quality



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

LEFT: Camper Racquel H. and junior Emily Smith enjoy their week together at Camp Quality NWMO. TOP: Racquel H. spends time fishing during her week stay at Camp Quality in 2013. BOTTOM: Xander R., another camper, stops for a picture with his friend and counselor Jan Moutray.

Student changes life at week-long camp

LAUREN MCCOY
Asst. News Editor | @TheMissourian

This morning, as you rolled over to smack that snooze button on your alarm, a child was gently nudged awake by an oncology nurse for her morning dose of medicine. As you heaved yourself up to get ready for work or class, that same child stirred carefully to avoid detaching the tubes running from her nose and arms to the clicking metal machines standing guard by her bed.

Every day, thousands of children across the country start their day like this because of the big, daunting C-word: cancer.

Bodies ravaged from chemotherapy or radiation, these children rarely get the chance to feel the sun on their skin without fear of extreme sunburn, or run and play like others their age due to fatigue.

But every summer, Camp Quality Northwest Missouri provides those things and more for these children with a week-long camp dedicated to

letting children with cancer be children again.

Junior Emily Smith dedicated herself to that same cause, volunteering a week of her summer to help one child forget the antiseptic smell of the hospital halls, the metrical tick of metal guardians and free her to get a breath of fresh air.

"They do all kinds of stuff," Smith said. "It's all centered around making the kid feel like it's their week."

With 15 camps across the country, Camp Quality USA has a large population to serve. In the US, some 13,400 children are diagnosed with cancer every year. According to the American Cancer Society Childhood Cancer Statistics for 2014, an estimated 15,780 new cases and 1,960 cancer deaths are expected to occur among children and adolescents.

Despite the statistics, these camps and volunteers do everything they can to ensure the children and families affected by cancer have something to look forward to other than long days in haunting hospitals.

Smith began her involvement with Camp Quality NWMO two summers ago, first as a relief counselor and then a companion. As a companion, she was paired with 9-year-old Racquel, a first time camper right in the middle of chemotherapy and battling leukemia.

"My second year, I got Racquel," Smith said. "They suggest that you call the family a couple weeks ahead of time to talk to the mom and dad, and have conversations with your camper."

For Racquel, this was her first experience going to any kind of camp. Children tend to get butterflies at the thought of being away from their family for more than a night, and in Racquel's case, those butterflies were on steroids.

"She was 9 and she had leukemia, so as if there wasn't enough going on, she was really nervous about it," Smith said. "I ended up talking to her

SEE CAMP | A5

News Brief: Group sponsors skin cancer event

The Maryville chapter of the American Association of University Women will sponsor the upcoming event "Melanoma and Skin Cancers."

Sue Gille, chair of the Nodaway County Crusade Against Cancer, will present about skin cancers and the importance of screening and prevention.

"Melanoma and Skin Cancers" is free and open to the public. The event will take place at 7 p.m. March 10 in the Maryville Public Library downstairs meeting room.

The AAUW is a national organization that advocates equity of women and girls, focusing on education, philanthropy and research. For more information about the event or membership, contact Barbara Nelson at 660.582.8935.

Owner says The Pub will reopen Friday

BRANDON ZENNER
News Editor | @brandonzenner

After passing the last of its inspections Wednesday afternoon, the wait continues for the reopening of The Pub.

The once-beloved bar underwent a city code inspection 2 p.m. Wednesday, which Maryville code enforcement officer Jim Wiederholt said went as planned.

"Everything went fine," Wiederholt said. "We have given him permission to go ahead and open."

The Pub has lain in the shadows of Main Street for more than two and a half years. The watering hole for those of legal age was thought by many to be gone for good once the south wall collapsed Sept. 1, 2011 due to structural damage.

The empty lot, which contained nothing but debris and rubble, even inspired a Twitter page, "Is The

Pub Open Yet?" set out to update Maryville if the venue was open; often summing it up to followers as "No."

Bar manager Jeff Zeller is doing his best to turn that tweet into a "YES."

"I'm waiting on the credit card machine, which is supposed to be in (Thursday)," he said. "Some last minute stuff, just cleaning up and organizing some things (is all that's left)."

While Northwest students stay thirsty for the bar's reopening, some have taken to Twitter to vent their frustration.

"The owner of the Pub needs to set a deadline date for when it will ACTUALLY reopen, and actually try and meet that deadline. #ridiculous," senior Cody Best said.

However, Zeller is doing what he can to prove doubters wrong.

"We'll be opening on Friday; that's the plan."



FILE PHOTO

The Pub began reconstruction months after the building collapsed Sept. 1, 2011. Two and a half years later, manager Jeff Zeller says his bar is planned to open Friday.

Two Northwest students strut their way to final Miss Missouri catwalk

MOLLY BRYAN
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

Every year, people from coast to coast relish the chance to watch the Miss America pageant on TV. And this year, there is a chance that Northwest will see a familiar face.

Two contenders will represent Northwest in the Miss Missouri state pageant. One girl out of 20 will be crowned the winner and given the title of Miss Missouri and will move on to the final Miss America pageant.

The first of the competitors is senior Alexandria McKee, who was named Miss Western Missouri March 1.

"McKee is a new face to the Miss Missouri/Miss America program," said Patricia Wyatt, the director of

the Miss Western pageant. "We are so proud of her and her desire to help use her platform of 'Managing and Growing With a Learning Disability' to help other college-bound students see that they too can be successful in college."

"Alex will be sharing her personal experiences with students to show how successful she has been here at Northwest, as well as working to help raise awareness in the national platform of Miss America, Children's Miracle Network."

The contestants use a platform, an issue important to the contestant and relevant to the country, to represent their main focus that they are sharing with the judges. After Miss America is chosen, she will continue to address community service organizations, businesses and civic leaders, the me-

dia and others about their platform issues, according to the Miss America website.

"My platform is 'Managing and Growing Up With a Learning Disability,'" McKee said. "I chose this platform because I have ADHD and dyslexia myself."

She has also been a part of the Northwest Dance Company, helped with philanthropic projects, worked as a team member and participated in several shows that are a part of the Northwest and Maryville community.

The second contestant is Northwest senior Darbi Fuhrman, who won Miss Zona Rosa in August of 2013. Fuhrman is no stranger to the pageant game.

"Darbi Fuhrman has been active in the Miss Missouri system for several

years," Wyatt said. "She started as a Little Miss contestant and worked her way up through the Miss Missouri's Outstanding Teen program."

"She continued in the Miss Missouri program, building her platform concerning children of divorced families, looking at the brighter aspect of evolving families and using her volunteer program to help children adapt to divided families."

McKee said stereotypes created by shows, such as "Toddlers and Tiaras," are especially false when it comes to scholarship pageants.

"Even though it is labeled as a beauty pageant, it is anything but that," McKee said. "They don't stress

SEE PAGEANT | A5



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Senior Alexandria McKee is crowned Miss Western Missouri March 1.

Track and field looks to fill void left by graduation

TYLER BROWN

Chief Sports Reporter | @TyMan4

The Maryville track and field team will use the next three weeks to fill the void of the seniors that graduated in 2013.

The Spoofhounds had their first practice on Monday, but will have until March 27 to translate it into potential success. The first meet is a time trial, so there will be no scoring or medals. The teams present will be Lawson, Bishop LeBlond, Plattsburg, and Savannah, with Maryville hosting.

Leading up to the first meet, head coach Lori Klaus is looking to figure out who is going to be running which events, and having lost several seniors, Klaus knows she has her work cut out for her.

"Right now we're just focusing on getting everybody on the same page," Klaus said. "We lost a lot of really strong senior leadership from last year. We got to figure out what events are best for that particular kid and what's best for the team. We have over 60 kids, boys and girls combined. So that's a lot to figure out."

"(It is) just kind of a practice meet. It's to get a time on your kid to kind of know where you're at before we kick off."

With pressure to perform, one of Klaus's goals for the practice meet is to gain experience for the younger athletes.

"We just want everyone to run and get a time to see where we're at," Klaus said. "A lot of our freshmen will have never ran a full 100-meter hurdle race before that day. Or they may have never actually competed in the event that they are in."

The other goal for her team at the practice meet is aimed at the athletes who have never raced at all.

"(We) have to let everyone get to know how a track meet runs," Klaus said. "This is how early you warm up, this is where you need to be, listen to the calls, and get there on your own kind of thing. It's just a time our kids can figure out what they're doing."

Another tough task for Klaus is the winter weather still going strong in March. The Spoofhounds have yet to practice outside as the entire football field and track are still covered in snow. Klaus said they might be able to make it outside by Friday, but if not, she believes they definitely will on Monday.

"We can send our longer-distance runners on road runs when it gets above 30 (degrees)," Klaus said. "With our sprinters, we need it to be above 45 (degrees). We just do what we can inside the gym or the hallways. It's going OK. We just have to find space."



FILE PHOTO | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior Trent Dredge is one of six seniors returning to the Spoofhound baseball team that went 6-11 last season in its first season under head coach Matt Houchin.

Boys begin 2014 season off the field

CHRIS SCHOONOVER

Sports Editor | @schoon54

In his second season as head coach, Matt Houchin relies on a plethora of new starters as he looks to improve on his 6-11 first-year campaign.

The Spoofhounds lost shortstop Jonathan Baker, third baseman Ridge Yount, center fielder Tyler Tripp and first baseman Shane Owens to graduation, making early-season practices competitive for the underclassmen wanting to fill the voids in the lineup.

"They know there are open positions, and you can tell because they are really working hard," Houchin said. "I think the competition within them will only make them better. Anytime you have two guys competing for a spot, they can only get better."

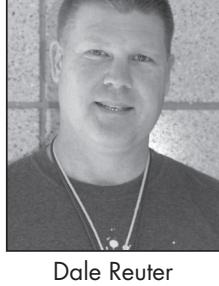
The 'Hounds will put senior pitcher Issac Bledsoe back on the mound, and senior catcher Trent Dredge behind the plate—two of the few experienced players on the Maryville roster.

With snow on the ground, the Spoofhounds are forced inside to practice in the gym, making it difficult for the younger players to adjust to their new roles. Houchin believes the team's slow start last year was because of the lack of live-ball practices due to weather and will want to avoid the early-season hole.

"The biggest thing about last year's season is that it took a while to get outside," Houchin said. "We were indoors a lot, but we got an indoor hitting cage, so we got a lot more live batting. We noticed with that that our batting average went up and started getting guys on base."

"We can't control the weather, but we can control how we attack our baseball practice. We've already had a couple of practices, and we've tried making everything quick and fast."

New head coach takes over for Oludaja in successful soccer program



DALTON VITT
Asst. Sports Editor | @DaltonVitt

After a deep postseason run in 2013, the Maryville girls soccer team returns a talented crew of players under a new head coach.

First-year head coach Dale Reuter will take the reins this season from Bayo Oludaja, who led the Spoofhounds to the Class 1 quarterfinals last May.

Maryville fell 4-2 to O'Hara to end its 2013 run, but will have senior midfielder

Cassie Holtman, her sister, sophomore forward Mollie Holtman and junior defender Ashton Reuter, Dale's oldest daughter, all set to improve on last year.

"It's a great opportunity," Dale said. "I think the people who have come before me all had a great hand in the success of this team, and I really look forward to continuing on with that tradition and build on what they have already built."

Dale Reuter said his competitive spirit makes him a natural fit for the program. He has coached seven years of

competitive soccer in Maryville, including coaching Ashton Reuter and younger daughter Kylie.

"It's a feeling of great pride to watch them both turn into good, young women and do great things," Dale said. "I have coached several of the girls on the team for years, and it's just a sense of pride watching them grow, knowing that I had a little part of it."

"It's a big asset to know them. You know their strengths, you know their weaknesses.... You've been around

them for a while, so you know what their hopes and dreams are."

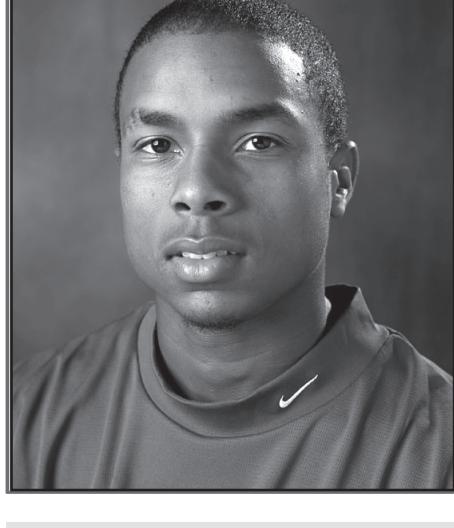
Dale hopes Mollie will improve even further after helping lead Maryville to a 17-4 year as a standout scorer as just a freshman.

"I think Mollie is going to continue on where she left off last year," Dale Reuter said. "Hopefully, she will get stronger and bigger as far as a player on the field, as far as knowing what she's doing in that competitive high school realm. She is a great competitor."

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

BEARCATS

DeShaun Cooper



Senior point guard DeShaun Cooper was selected as the MIAA Player of the Year along with being a unanimous selection for the All-MIAA First-Team.

Ashleigh Nelson



Junior guard Ashleigh Nelson was the lone scorer in double figures in Northwest's 47-42 first-round loss to Northeastern State in the MIAA Tournament.

Mollie Holtman



Sophomore forward Mollie Holtman will try to build on her freshman campaign, in which she was a Second-Team All-State selection as one of Maryville's elite scorers.

Ashton Reuter



Junior Ashton Reuter was a Second-Team All-State selection last season for the Maryville soccer program after winning the Class 1 District 16 title last year.

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CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior point guard DeShaun Cooper flies to the rim for a shot against Southwest Baptist Feb. 26. Conference coaches selected Cooper as the MIAA Player of the Year Wednesday.

11

COMBINED RUNS
ALLOWED IN FINAL TWO
INNINGS OF GAMES

Softball losing games in clutch, late situations

JON POMATTO
Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

The Bearcat softball team got off to a slow start this past weekend, losing its first two games to Sioux Falls and Wayne State. But a walk-off single provided by freshman infielder Cassidy Lee could boost the Bearcats' confidence in the coming games.

"We fought back to win the last game, so we are going to use that last win to start up where we left off and get ahead early," junior catcher Taszia Roseberry said. "We are starting to mesh as a team. We are learning to pick one another up and have short memory and forget about poor plays. [We're] focusing on staying positive."

Despite the losses, the Northwest defense and pitching staff started strong, holding their opponents to only four runs in the first five innings of all three games combined.

However, the Bearcats allowed 11 runs combined in the final two innings of each game.

"We played really well for 17 out of the 21 innings; we just have to find a way to play well for all 21 innings to get over that hump and to win more games," head coach Ryan Anderson said. "If you look at the stats, we outplayed our opponents, and, realistically, we are the better team and had those teams beat. We just have to keep swinging the bats and have to find a way to pitch just a little better, because we are right there."

The Bearcats travel to Topeka, Kan. Saturday to take on Washburn. Sunday, they head to Emporia, Kan. to take the field against Emporia State.

Men open tourney against Emporia

CHRIS SCHOONOVER
Sports Editor | @schoon54

Since falling one game short of an outright MIAA title, the Northwest men's basketball team has changed its focus to a new goal — an MIAA Tournament championship.

The Bearcats will take on Emporia State at 6 p.m. Friday at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, the site where they put together a championship game run from the No. 6 seed last season.

"The end of the season always gets you excited and ready to play," said senior guard Bryston Williams, who made the All-MIAA Defensive Team. "It's the atmosphere, and you know there is going to be big crowds and fun games."

"It's always easier to get ready for these big games."

Northwest knocked off Emporia State 89-68 Dec. 7 at home, and head coach Ben McCollum has seen the difficulties the Hornets create with their different schemes.

"I watched one of their games, and they probably played seven or eight different defenses," McCollum said. "Offensively, they are going to do 20 different things."

Senior guard and MIAA Player of the Year DeShaun Cooper knows the importance of taking each game as it comes instead of looking ahead to the potential rubber match with Missouri Southern Saturday.

"We can't think that if we win this game that we get (Southern)," Cooper said. "MoSo has to play a game, too. We just gotta take the game for what it is, know that it could be our last game,

and just play like it's our last game."

"We worked hard to get to this point, and now that we are at this point, we have to put it on display."

Despite the seeding, McCollum throws out the last three months of basketball when tournament time comes.

"When you go into the postseason, you don't really necessarily visualize being the No. 2 seed as much as you do a totally new season," McCollum said. "Everybody has a fresh slate, it's 0-0, no one is the favorite, and that's how you treat these tournaments."

"For some reason, that first (game), when everyone has got the jitters and everyone is going to go that much harder, there is a fresh start for everyone."

With the tournament format, the Bearcats will have to concentrate on the things they can control instead of preparing for an unknown opponent.

"I think in a postseason setting, your No. 1 objective is to focus on yourself and keeping the game in the half-court, which it will be in the half-court, and then rebounding is huge in the postseason," McCollum said.

Cooper missed last season's MIAA Tournament run and season with an injury, and has more than just a chip on his shoulder when it comes to making an impact in Kansas City.

"It's not a chip, it's a whole bag," Cooper said. "Watching that conference tourney and wanting to be out there...I'm just ready to play basketball."

"I want to go out there, help my team win, and get the 'W' like it needs to be."

5

LAST YEAR'S
SEED IN MIAA
TOURNAMENT

89-68

FINAL SCORE OF DEC.
7 MEETING BETWEEN
NW AND ESU

Track qualifies 1 thrower for indoor championship meet

DAULTON PERRY
Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

The Northwest track teams ended its indoor season by placing ninth in both the men's and women's MIAA Championships and qualified one athlete to the national meet.

Senior Lekiesha McKnight had an NCAA provisional mark in the shot put with a throw of 47-2.25 meters to finish third, but her throw vaulted her to a spot in the indoor championships.

Head coach Scott Lorek would have liked more of an imprint on the scoresheet but was pleased with the competitive drive.

"I certainly would've liked to have scored more points, but we competed really well," Lorek said. "I think the main thing is that our competitiveness and our compassion are there, but we have holes to fill."

The biggest highlight of the weekend was from junior Chloe Wichen-

mann, as she won the 600-yard run and conference title with a time of 1:24.36.

"It was great to have a conference champion, and she definitely deserved that," Lorek said. "She runs hard and we ask her to do a lot, but we are really proud of her. She bounced back from injuries over Christmas break and was able to run great in the 600, and that's just super."

The women's 4x400 meter relay team that consists of junior Alexis Boyd, freshman Audrey Bolinger, freshman Haley Manning and Wichenmann placed fourth and set a provisional mark with a time of 3:53.79.

In the 800, Manning placed sixth with a provisional mark of 2:16.61. In the 400, senior Ashton Nibert and Boyd both had provisional marks with times of 57.40 and 57.73, which placed them seventh and eighth, respectively.

On the men's side, junior Zac Bendrick had the only provisional mark with his throw of 52-2.75 meters

in the shot put. Junior Drew Keefer received bronze in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 8:38.71.

"This weekend just goes to show what our league is like in track and field," Lorek said. "I think we got like 16 people nationally ranked, and we are finishing ninth. So that shows where our league is, but we just got to rise to it."

Up next for the Northwest track teams is the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships March 14-16, in which just McKnight will participate, but the teams are also moving outside and are beginning practice for their outdoor season.

"Some of the events are different, but it is more of a mental thing because we are going to have to deal more with the elements in competition," Lorek said. "And some of it is visually as you go from inside to outside, and the track seems a lot bigger. I think that the teams are ready to be outside and get out of being inside."



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN
Freshman Courtney Powell practices on the hurdles. Both Northwest teams finished ninth in the MIAA Championships.

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V89 | N22



FILE PHOTO | NW MISSOURIAN

Head coach Mike Kuwitzky celebrates with his team during a game in 2011. Kuwitzky said he was told by administrators that he will not be brought back to coach next season. The Spoofhounds finished 6-18 in Kuwitzky's final season.

Kuwitzky ends 28-year tenure as basketball coach

JOEY TUCKER

Chief Sports Reporter | @joetuckc311

Mike Kuwitzky knelt at the end of his team's bench, his left knee firmly perched on the sideline, as he hollered an offensive set in his team's Jan. 20 home loss to Mid-Buchanan. The play resulted in one of many turnovers, the Spoofhounds were drubbed 54-39, and the frustration on Kuwitzky's face

was evident.

It was obvious Kuwitzky was frustrated; in his 28-year career, Kuwitzky has taken great pride in his selfless, ball-security offensive strategy that has led him to claim the most wins in Maryville boys' basketball history. Yet the five-time Coach of the Year and 2011 Missouri Basketball Coaches Association's Hall of Fame inductee found himself leading an inexperienced squad that couldn't

get over the hump this season.

Entering this year with a career record of 471-247, he is a year removed from a sectional championship. An uncommonly dreadful campaign could be one reason his future as head coach of the 'Hounds is in serious question.

"It was a tough year. Going 6-18, that's tough," Kuwitzky said. "But we knew it was going to be tough. We knew we'd be going

through a rebuilding process. We knew that we would be playing a lot of young players. But we've had a lot of unfortunate breaks."

And now Kuwitzky may find himself, and his extensive coaching career, catching an unfortunate break. In a down year, where he lost his best

SEE COACH K | A9

Women set to return veteran core next year

DALTON VITT

Asst. Sports Editor | @DaltonVitt

The phrase "A chip on the shoulder" was uttered multiple times in head coach Michael Smith's press conference Monday night following Northwest's ousting from the women's MIAA Tournament.

That's the mentality the team missed in the final stretch of the season.

When all the pieces fell in place for the Bearcats to host a first-round game, despite losing three of the final four regular-season games, it seemed like a potential tournament run was coming.

"It's unfortunate," Smith said. "I felt bad for our kids because I really thought that we had a great opportunity to get back to Kansas City."

With a final record of 10-17, and with a 7-13 record in the conference, Smith is looking forward to a second season at the helm, where he will lose just two seniors: Monique Stevens and Meridee Scott.

"Unless I get a pink slip tomorrow, I'm not planning on going anywhere," Smith said. "We're gonna find some stability within this program."

"We're gonna build it from the ground up and get it back to where it needs to be, and that's up top of the MIAA."

A final loss to Northeastern State Monday night, 47-42, encapsulated 2013-2014 in a nutshell-peaks and

valleys. Northwest allowed a 9-0 run early in the first half to the River-Hawks and answered with a 7-0 run. Northeastern immediately followed with a repeat 9-0 run, countered by a 10-0 Bearcat run.

"It was basket to basket," junior guard Ashleigh Nelson said. "We would score, they would score. We just couldn't find a stop and a score to chip away at the small lead that they had."

Northwest dropped its first three games of the season and won four of the next six home games to recover. From Jan. 16 through Feb. 22, the Bearcats lost three in a row, then won four straight before losing the following three.

"We were in 13th for most of the season, so for us to finish tied for eighth says a lot about the character of these kids," Smith said.

Stevens averaged 6.3 points and led the Bearcats with 3.0 assists per game. Scott, a Maryville native, finished her career with 469 points and was a part of the 2010-2011 Final Four team under Gene Steinmeyer.

"It's a tough one; it's really hard to swallow," Stevens said, choking back tears after her final game. "You want your last game to be your best game."

Northwest will return its top four scorers - junior guard Ariel Easton, junior forward Annie Mathews, Nelson and sophomore guard Tember

After losing in the first round of the MIAA Tournament to Northeastern State, the Bearcats are looking forward to a second season under head coach Michael Smith.

SEE CORE | A9

Baseball trying to carry walk-off magic into weekend

JONATHAN BAKER

Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

With its win streak up to three games, the Northwest baseball team is looking to keep striding forward this weekend.

The Bearcats just completed their first series sweep of the season last weekend against Missouri Western. Northwest (7-5, 4-2) handed the Griffons their first two losses of conference play, sweeping the doubleheader 7-4 and 7-6. This moves head coach Darin Loe's squad into second place in the MIAA standings early in

the year.

"It helps your mentality when you can beat good teams," Loe said. "Fortunately, we got a couple breaks, got a couple big hits and kind of had them on their heels a little bit. It was a couple of good wins."

"Up until this point, we haven't won a seven-inning game, and we haven't swept a doubleheader. Being able to do that just gives you a little bit of confidence in the back of your mind."

The first game saw Northwest leading just 2-1 after three innings. The Bearcats then broke the game

open, scoring a total of five runs in the next two frames. Senior Ryker Fox got his second win of the season, pitching five innings and holding Missouri Western (6-5, 4-2) to one run on four hits.

In the second game, the Bearcats won in walk-off fashion. After the Griffons tied the game in the top of the ninth, freshman outfielder Austin Wulf hit a line drive just off the top of the third baseman's glove. The hit scored freshman third baseman Garrett Fort and lifted the Bearcats to a 7-6 victory.

"I noticed he was throwing a lot of

fastballs, so I was just sitting on that," Wulf said. "I got my pitch and hit it hard, and luckily, the third baseman missed it."

With the doubleheader Wednesday against Rockhurst cancelled, the Bearcats can turn their attention to conference foe Lincoln. The teams play a two-day doubleheader, starting at 1 p.m. today. Games three and four will be played tomorrow, beginning at noon.

Northwest will look to extend the winning streak even further, not letting last weekend's results go to waste.

Tourney time is big opportunity for men to solidify seeding



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

DALTON VITT
Asst. Sports Editor
@DaltonVitt



There are so many variations of diamonds in the rough in college sports, from late-round draft prospects to beautiful venues to lesser-known programs.

One of the spectacular events in our region that doesn't get the recognition it deserves is the MIAA Tournament, which tips off its quarterfinal round for the men tomorrow in Kansas City.

The Bearcats begin their run with a 6 p.m. matchup tomorrow against Emporia State, which won its conference tournament opener against Southwest Baptist Tuesday night.

Northwest found a ton of success inside against the Hornets, outscoring Emporia 44-26 in the paint in the 89-68 Dec. 7 victory in Bearcat Arena.

Senior forward Dillon Starzl showed his stuff in the spotlight last year, scoring 25 points in the 2013 quarterfinal tilt against Northeastern State. He followed that performance with 20 points and seven boards in the semis against Fort Hays.

Sitting in the No. 4 spot in the Central Region rankings entering the tournament, the Bearcats likely locked themselves into the national tournament, but nothing is guaranteed (except for the conference tournament champion).

After claiming the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference tournament title Tuesday night, Minnesota State Mankato put itself in position to potentially claim the top seed, although Central Missouri jumped the Mavericks in the ranks yesterday.

A MIAA Tournament title should bump Northwest into the second overall spot in the Central ranks, but MIAA Player of the Year DeShaun Cooper and company will have to get there first.

After taking on Emporia in the quarterfinals, the Bearcats would

SEE SOLIDIFY | A9

Landscape crew readies campus for springtime

ANDREW BENSON
Multimedia Editor | @02benson

After one of the worst winters in recent years, Northwest Facility Services works hard to restore the campus grounds.

Behind the scenes, Travis Stokes, landscape and sustainability manager, and landscape supervisor Danny Smith are planning plants and flower bed formations for the months to come. According to Stokes, more than 99 percent of plants on the Northwest campus are grown in the campus greenhouse south of the Dean L. Hubbard Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Those not grown on campus are purchased locally.

"Generally, we end up spending about five grand or so, and if we went and bought all the plants retail, we would spend somewhere around \$24,000, and we don't have that money in our budget," Stokes said.

More than 17,000 seeds were planted in five days in preparation for the upcoming spring. Of those seeds, 50 to 60 plants are new annuals and 10 to 15 are perennials. Stokes said there really is not a set formula for determining what they choose to plant each year.

"We'll spend the majority of the winter planning out the flower beds for the spring. Some of it is what's worked well in the past, and other plants we bring in, we're looking through catalogs and we're like, ooh, that's a neat plant," Stokes said.



KALVIN DUKU | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest Landscape Service's worker Bryan Freemyer helps remove loose branches from a tree near Colden Hall. After one of the worst winters in recent years, Northwest's landscaping crew has been hard at work to get the campus in pristine condition for spring.

Before they can start planting, cleanup from winter weather must occur.

"We really can't do anything until all the snow is gone. The last snow that came through a couple of weeks ago was just about all gone. As soon as you can get it all gone, it's a matter of picking up sticks, picking up leaves, fixing divots from where we ran over," Stokes said.

It's not just natural debris that the grounds crew clears. Stokes says the campus community can help keep

Northwest's campus looking good by refraining from littering.

"One of the things that always shows through is the amount of trash on campus because when it snows, we're not able to pick up the litter on campus," Stokes said. "When all that melts, the campus looks trashed. Literally."

Student Ambassador Courtney Clemens says the first impressions of the campus can determine whether a prospective student will choose to attend.

"Especially in the springtime when everything is so pretty, the campus doesn't need to be pointed out," Clemens said. "Parents will comment about how clean our campus is, how beautiful everything is, all the flowers; they just think everything is well-kept."

Stokes says the crew works its hardest to give students the space to attain their goals at Northwest.

"We understand that we are here to support the students in what they're trying to accomplish in getting

their degree and figure out who they are, so we make sure they have green space," Stokes said.

Smith says the entire grounds crew takes pride in maintaining the campus year-round.

"They don't see the insides of the buildings, they don't see Garrett Strong, they don't see the Union; the first thing they see is the campus," Smith said. "That's why we try so hard to make everything look the same throughout the whole year, and we take a lot of pride in that."

Student Senate accepts fee increases

MOLLY BRYAN
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

At the end of every fall trimester, various departments at Northwest bring possible fee increases to the attention of the Northwest Leadership Team. In the spring, the requests are voted on by Student Senate.

Senate voted on six fee proposals during its meeting Feb. 25. Five proposals were passed by Student Senate and are on their way to becoming permanent at the final phase of voting.

For the most part, the changes will increase fees already in place and included into students' tuition bill. The only exception is the fitness center fee, which will not take effect until the project is completed. The proposals included increases to fees for the Wellness Center, capital improvement, technology, minimum wage and the new fitness center. All of these possibilities are advantageous for Northwest students, according to Cody Uhing, Student Senate president.

"All the fee increases are in place for improving the student experience," Uhing said. "It is the primary job of the Student Senate in the spring to pass these fees."

Each fee is assessed per credit hour. The proposed technology fee will increase 70 cents. This expense will

fund a three-year plan to recycle Northwest computers, as well as provide Northwest students with a smaller and newer laptop in the fall of 2014.

The Wellness Center fee is increased by \$1.60 to continuously provide service to Northwest students. If the fee did not increase, then services would be cut.

The minimum wage increase is correlated with the student fee increase of 30 cents in order to ensure all student jobs are kept on campus without cutting the number of student employees.

The capital improvement fee will increase by \$3 and go toward general repairs and renovations around the University.

The proposed fitness center will bring an additional fee of \$4 per credit hour to students upon completion. This fitness center could be ready for students by fall of 2015 if approved for construction this spring.

"We are extremely interested in the health and wellness of our students and campus community and all that this project will provide in supporting this critical initiative," said Michael Johnson, vice president of student advancement.

The upcoming charges to Northwest's tuition are designed to provide continuous growth and improvements for Bearcat nation without shelling out big bucks.

Fee Increases

**FITNESS CENTER
\$4.00**

**WELLNESS
\$1.60**

**CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
\$3.00**

**TECHNOLOGY
\$.70**

**MINIMUM WAGE
\$.30**

News Brief:
Athletics, champions fund benefit from trophy tour

The Championship Trophy Tour that boasted Northwest's Division II Football National Championship wrapped up in Kansas City Feb. 28.

The events, which took place in St. Louis, St. Joseph, Omaha; Neb., Des Moines; Iowa and Kansas City, all featured speeches from Northwest officials, autograph sessions, and an auction run by alumnus Mark Younger.

Up for grabs at each stop was a football used in the championship game, as well as a helmet and jersey, which were similar to the ones worn in the championship game. Head coach Adam Dorrel, Athletics Director Mel Tjeerdtsma and President John Jasinski were at all five stops to answer questions and sign autographs.

A total of \$33,000 was raised for Northwest's Champions fund, which benefits the Bearcat football program, as well as other programs, and assists in athletic facility upgrades.

HELP WANTED

**City of Maryville Is Seeking
Part-time Seasonal Help Needed at
Mozingo Lake Recreation Park**

The City of Maryville is now accepting applications for part-time summer help. The Maintenance division is looking to fill general maintenance positions in the park and golf course. The Operations division is seeking housekeepers, information booth attendants, and golf clubhouse attendants. Most positions will work from April through October and start out at \$7.66 an hour. Applications can be obtained at City Hall (415 N. Market) or online at www.maryville.org and will be accepted until the positions have been filled. Please attach a schedule of availability to your application.

EOE/AA

**Amy Strong
Human Resources Manager
City of Maryville, MO
P.O. Box 438**

phone: 660-562-8002 • fax: 660-562-8022

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Bernice

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Friday, March 7

Last date to drop a trimester course
2:30 p.m. Jason Kandar visit to CIE

7:30 p.m. Encore: New Jazz Order

Saturday, March 8

8:00 a.m. Discover your major visit day-

5:00 p.m. Northwest Jazz Festival Concert

Natural Sciences

Olive DeLuce Building

Garrett Strong

8:00 p.m. SAC & Bearcats After Dark Presents:

12:00 p.m. Northwest Jazz Festival:

Chris Moon- Paranormal Investigator

New Jazz Order – Ron Houston Center

Student Union

Sunday, March 9

Daylight Saving Time begins

5:00 p.m. Senior Recital

Last date for 75% refund on 2nd block courses

7:00 p.m. Catholic Mass- First Sunday of Lent

2:00 p.m. Graduate Recital

The Station

Olive DeLuce Fine Arts building

"Courage first,
power second,
technique third"



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State bill would allow discrimination based on religion

SHANE STEELEY

Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

With four states striking down gay discrimination laws, a Cape Girardeau state senator feels Missouri could have a chance at success as a fifth-time charm.

Senator Wayne Wallingford is trying to pass Senate Bill 916, which would expand the definition of the exercising of religion as "an act or refusal to act that is substantially motivated by sincere religious belief." In layman's terms, the bill would allow anyone to refuse service based on religious grounds.

While Senator Wallingford could not be reached directly by the Missourian, in a statement to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, he stated that this bill

was about religious freedom, not discrimination.

"My bill is not about any gender or ethnicity or any sexual orientation; it's about religious freedom," Wallingford said. "Just because you have a religious belief — and a substantial religious belief — doesn't mean you're protected under the bill."

One of the largest proponents of the bill is Kerry Messer, president of the Missouri Family Network, a socially-conservative organization that supports heterosexual families.

"We were looking at the broad, overarching view of protecting religious liberties," Messer said in an interview with KRCG-13 reporter Chris Sheppard.

Arizona state representative Sonny Borrelli agrees with his fellow re-

publican colleague due to the right that people should not have to work with organizations that go against their principles.

"Say you have a gay person who runs a printing shop," said Borrelli, in a statement to stjoehann.com. "If somebody from the Westboro Baptist Church comes in there and asks to print a sign the owner obviously doesn't agree with."

This bill is not only making social justice activists upset but business leaders as well. Business professor Terry Coalter sees very little positive outcome from such a law.

"I don't see any upside for business," Coalter said. "Businesses need to know who they are going to upset and who they are not."

Coalter believes businesses will

have a hard time justifying their actions as less and less proponents of gay discrimination continue to be in power.

"It's going to be hard to defend 10 years from now," Coalter said. "If we look at this generation, being gay is a non-issue."

Pre-law professor Daniel Smith thinks this is not helpful on the political scale and is creating an unneeded gridlock on our state system.

"You would have to be pretty ignorant (to try this again)," Smith said. "It is not protecting religion."

According to Smith, the distraction that this can cause seems to be a big point, and it can be used for grandstanding by those involved.

"There are people who use their businesses or organizations to say I'm

better than you," Smith said. "Why not spend more time addressing important issues?"

Louis Hageman, president of Common Ground, feels this is a political bandwagon that some people can jump on, but the wheels aren't turning.

"Somebody gave the conservative politicians a new angle for discrimination, and they are jumping on it because they can," Hageman said. "It's much like after slavery when they implemented literacy tests for voting."

Hageman points out the similarities between the two movements, and says while the people may be different, the motive is still the same.

"It's a similarity in ideals. We want all the rights of other people," Hageman said. "We are humans, and we demand human dignity."

Local church prays for upgrade

LAUREN MCCOY

Asst. News Editor | @McCoy14

The collection plate at the First United Methodist Church will go further than the pews can reach for the next few months as the church begins a campaign to expand the building.

The Growing First for the Future campaign is expected to last four months with the understanding that memberships will continue with a two- or three-year plan. The funds will go toward building a new lobby, entrance, welcome center, new and expanded nursery, elevator, restrooms and an entrance into the worship center.

Pastor Scott Moon, who has served as pastor for five years, explained the church has worked toward this goal for some time.

"The church has been making preparations to first of all acquire property to the north of the church and to develop that," he said. "It was four years ago that the property was finalized and buildings were removed, so it prepared the way for developing facilities that the church needs to move into the future."

The church hopes these changes will fit the changing demographic needs of Maryville, especially households with young children.

"We did some studies as far as what the ministry needs for the com-



The proposed First United Methodist Church would build a new lobby, entrance, welcome center, expanded nursery and worship center entrance.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

munity and the way we're equipped to do that ministry," Moon said. "A couple conclusions were focusing on children's ministry, and another was really needing to make a connection with the community."

The church conducted what is known as a Healthy Church Initiative, led by Tye Parsons, a member of the church, to develop a vision that allows the church to fulfill the needs of the community as it sees them.

The price for these renovations rings up to a total of \$1.7 million, but according to Moon, this is not only feasible, but exciting for the congrega-

tion.

"We did a feasibility study and determined it is within the capacity of the church with a two- or three-year financial campaign to pay for the project, and people are for this," Moon said.

Youth minister Chris Komorech will kick off the campaign with a worship service Sunday, March 9 speaking on gratitude. Moon and the fellow leadership members believed all the things required for this project to be a success are falling into place and look forward to what the future could bring.

tion.

Assistant Superintendent Steve Klotz said the lack of financial support over the years caused the school district to switch courses and delay the program.

"It is something we had interest in for 10 years," Klotz said. "Five or six years ago we had a committee that was made up of teachers, administrators and parents that really studied and researched the issue, and at that time we made the decision that we weren't able to financially provide that program."

However, at this time, because we're able to combine some resources that we currently have and some resources that we are adding, we can get the program put together."

The selection process for the Gifted and Talented Program can be very rigorous. The process requires letters of recommendations from teachers as well as testing to see if the child is gifted.

"We will receive referrals to go through a screening process from

both our teaching staff and parents," Klotz said. "Once the testing is complete and the child shows signs of being gifted, we will ultimately make a decision once we know they (the child) qualifies for that service."

Once the tests come back and the child is deemed gifted, administrators will then ask the parents if they want their child involved in the program.

Once the child enters the program, he or she will spend at least two hours a day, two days a week in separate classrooms with teachers who are qualified to teach the child more challenging content and cater to his or her individual learning style.

"We will have separate classrooms that (the children) can go to," Klotz said. "We will also free up a teacher, and the children will go to them."

The program will not be fully introduced in Maryville until the 2015-2016 school year.

Gifted programs coming to district

RYAN EDWARDS

Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

For some time, the city of Maryville has been waiting for a program to showcase the talents of its bright, young students.

In 1973, the state of Missouri and the General Assembly established the Gifted and Talented Program for gifted children across the state. The state pushed the special education law in 1973.

According to the state's Department of Education, "the law authorized the State Board of Education to establish standards for special programs for gifted students."

The state website also says that school districts across Missouri "may establish programs for gifted children when sufficient number of children in the district are determined to be gifted."

Though the Maryville School District has been pushing for the programs, financial restrictions have not allowed the schools to make the

transition.

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CANDIDATE PROFILE: Hometown man aims to give back to community

BRANDON ZENNER

News Editor | @brandonzenner

As City Council elections near, one homegrown man hopes to make an impact in the only city he has ever known.



Tim Shipley

Tim Shipley, 35, was born in Burlington Junction and lived in Maryville from the time he was 6 years old. He attended Horace Mann Laboratory School from pre-kindergarten until sixth grade when he moved to the Maryville School District while his mother taught broadcasting at Northwest.

"I've grown up with Northwest as part of my life," Shipley said. "You could say it's in my blood. I wouldn't be who I am without (the University and the community)."

In 1998, Shipley chose to become a Bearcat because he was familiar with it and knew what opportunities he would have.

"I grew up earning a high degree of respect for the institution and for what were some really strong programs here," Shipley said. "It was home... you could talk to just about anyone."

During his time at Northwest, Shipley worked on campus for three years and studied abroad during his last semester in London.

Shipley and his wife, Nancy, got married on the Northwest campus. The couple are parents of an adopted son, 16-month-old Renner, and are owners of two Labrador retrievers.

Away from work, Shipley and his family spend time like most families, shopping, relaxing with family members and doing projects around the house.

"We are kind of homebodies

and don't like to travel much, but I get plenty of that with my job," Shipley said. "We spend a lot of time going to athletic events at the University. We go to just about all the home basketball games and all home football games."

As a railroad contractor for Herzog Railroad Services, Inc. in St. Joseph, Shipley has played a role in the everyday tasks the company handles and has traveled all across the world for his job. However, he says his love for the small-town atmosphere is what keeps him in Maryville.

"I have a vested interest, having grown up here and planning to spend the rest of my life here, in the direction this community is going," Shipley said. "I want to be a part of what I think is going to be an exciting few years for the community."

Shipley believes students have a misconception on voting in elections and urges anyone with an opinion to stand by what they believe in.

"These are the elections where your votes really do count. It really does come down to a majority rules. Instead of going to the Union and talking about it over lunch and never doing anything else beyond that, they owe it to themselves and to the ideas they foster to go out and vote," Shipley said.

Whether or not the vote stands on Shipley's side, he plans to stay put in Maryville his whole life.

"I don't have the headaches of living in a big city," Shipley said. "I don't spend a whole lot of time stuck in traffic; my time is for me and not for the freeway, and I kind of like that about Maryville."

VIDEO



See Shipley's full interview online

Editor's Note:

The Northwest Missourian will profile each of the three candidates running for Maryville's City Council. Each candidate was given an equal opportunity with the same questions. Full video interviews can be seen at nwmissourinews.com

Worship in Maryville

First Presbyterian Church

Worship, Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.

Sunday school for all ages @ 9 a.m.

Shepherds Kitchen, Thursdays @ 5 p.m.



211 S. Main Maryville

660.582.4257

www.maryvillepresbyterian.orgpbmary@embarqmail.com

First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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9:15 a.m. Sunday School

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W. Dale Stewart, Minister

www.fccmaryville.embarqspace.comfcc@embarqmail.com

St Paul's Episcopal Church

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Wesley Student Center

Midweek Worship 9:00

Wednesday Nights

Faith/Life Study 7:00 Thursday Nights

All Are Welcome!

Rev. Dr. Don Ehlers,

Rev. Dr. Marjean Ehlers,

University should consider allowing alcohol at concerts



SHANE STEELEY
Chief Reporter

Beer and concerts – the only thing that is a better combination is peanut butter and jelly. At every concert I have ever gone to, the major moneymaker is always the beer tent. Now, with a school where money seems to be an issue at every turn, why don't we turn the spring and fall concerts into wet areas that sell alcohol?

Of course, a major gripe that tends to be expressed is the fear of someone drunk doing something stupid or violent. This is where protocol that is taken with football games can be used. If someone is being belligerent, then they should be ejected promptly and immediately.

The best solution would be to sell plastic beer bottles that can be recycled, which would help our recycling program along the way as well. Providing beer with lower alcohol content would give people a buzz, but not get them drunk, which could teach students more about responsible drinking. Harder alcohol, which gets people drunk much quicker, also typically leads to more binging. This might lead to the problems people

are afraid of.

Another solution would be direct communication with the musicians, and those in the music industry, on how to have a safe concert that has alcohol. Of course, every concert has its problems. Even the spring and winter concerts at Northwest have had issues over the years with either rude concertgoers or genuinely obnoxious people. That does not mean we have to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

This could lead to more people coming to concerts of lesser-known musicians, or it could sway people to go who have stated they will not go if there isn't alcohol. There are many reasons people go to concerts: for the music, for the show or for the atmosphere. But there are some people who enjoy drinking in that atmosphere just like they do at a ball game. I think that it would be great to cater to these people and make a bunch of money in the meantime.

A final appeal to those who could make these types of decisions is simply the potential profitability. The most recent concert where T-Pain came brought more than one thousand people; if just 25 percent of that thousand bought beer at \$3 a beer, we would see at least \$750. If the University gets an extra 100 to 200 people to attend a lesser-known band because of alcohol sales, that



FILE PHOTO | NW MISSOURIAN

The crowd goes wild at the Ron Houston Performing Arts Center last fall. The concert featured rappers T-Pain and Mike Stud. The University could raise attendance and revenue if it allows alcohol sales and consumption at future concerts.

is an extra \$1 to \$2 thousand dollars on ticket sales alone, not to mention the money made off beer sales. This could lead to bigger names for

the concerts or even a change of venue due to the amount of people who may come if a big-name artist is grabbed. While this may be con-

sidered conjecture, it's still a logical thing to consider and possibly give a chance. No idea should be written off because it sounds far-fetched.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Missourian Editorial Staff

In the Feb. 13 and 20 issue of the Northwest Missourian, two candidates in the Maryville City Council race wrote a column that appeared in the opinion section. The Missou-

rian wanted to take the opportunity to give all three of the candidates running for the two council seats, opening in April, a chance to address the Maryville voters.

We at The Missourian thought it important to help inform the public on issues of local significance.

OUR VIEW:

Administration owes Kuwitzky proper sendoff in light of recent 'resignation'

For the last 27 years, the Spoofhounds knew when they got out of junior high what they had when they took the court in high school—Coach K.

Now, Maryville boys' basketball coach Mike Kuwitzky and his 478 career wins are leaving the program, but the question of why he is no longer patrolling the sidelines is still up in the air.

If he was forced out, then the Maryville administration needs to explain why a Missouri Hall of Fame coach received the boot before ending his career on his own terms.

If the game had passed him by or he was constantly having subpar seasons, then yes, it was time for him to go. But, despite this season, Kuwitzky proved a winner even though he had not won a state title.

High school athletics are not like college sports, where they can recruit kids in to build a program. He was dealt a different hand every year and was still able to put Ws in the win-loss column.

Stories have been told of Kuwitzky calling each individual student to the front of the bus on road trips home to discuss the game and any grievances felt. Anyone who has been involved in high school sports knows that is not a common occurrence and is something special to the

Spoofhound program.

You knew what you'd see when you watched a Maryville basketball game. They would slow the pace down, pass the ball around for the best shot, (rather than just going for an open shot) and orient themselves defensively.

If the administration believed that style of basketball was not working in the present game, they should have stepped up and made the public aware. The problem with being outside of the program is we don't know what practices were like. If he has had a negative influence on the program, that has been shielded from the public.

There is obvious pressure for the college and high school athletic programs to compete against one another in Maryville, and one would think that someone who instilled a winning tradition and who has won, would have some type of leeway when it comes to a couple of subpar seasons, if that was the reason.

They should have let the man go out when, and how, he wanted to. If it was one, two or three more seasons until he called it quits, then they owed it to him.

CAMPUS TALK

Are you excited about The Pub re-opening?



"Yes, I'm very excited. It's been closed since my freshman year and I heard it was real chill place when it was open."

Alvin Le

Bio-Psych



"Ya I'm pretty happy about it. I want to go to the bars, but none of them are my style so something new will be nice."

Anthony Miles

Chemistry Ed.



"I'm kind of excited to have a new entertainment option in Maryville. Molly's is getting kind of old."

Caroline Campbell

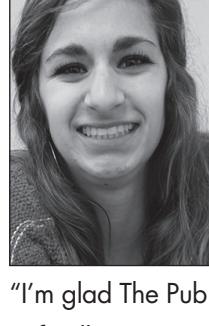
Marine Biology



"I am excited about it opening because I'm more of a sit down, drink and talk kind of guy instead of dancing."

Dalton Amos

Business Management



"I'm glad The Pub is finally opening up because it will be a different atmosphere. I think it will be a more chill place to just hang out."

Laura Herman

Elementary Ed.

Missouri bill amounts to discrimination



BEN LAWSON
Managing Editor

The recent bill filed in the Missouri Senate that would allow business owners to refuse services based on religious beliefs is about more than homosexual rights. It raises this important question: does a person's freedom of religion trump a person's freedom from oppression?

The bill, filed by Republican Sen. Wayne Wallingford, is similar to recent legislation in Kansas and Arizona. Although the bill does not mention sexual orientation, it is clearly intended to provide legal cover for business owners who wish to refuse services to homosexual patrons.

The freedom to choose our faith is one of our country's greatest and most important freedoms. In 2014, it is by no means a unique freedom, but that does not diminish its value.

Proponents and opponents of this bill must accept that homosexuality is

against many people's religion. The acceptance of others' religious beliefs is crucial to finding harmony as a society. Many of these people believe it is against their religion to interact with homosexuals. So should homosexuals respect that by avoiding those businesses, or is that a form of oppression?

Denying services based on sexual preferences certainly is. These bills could potentially undo many things that were accomplished during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. They could legalize segregation, an issue this country did away with decades ago for obvious reasons.

Most of the time, a homosexual giving patronage to a business would have nothing to do with his sexual preference, so why should that person be denied services? A person certainly has no right to go into a business and begin forcing their beliefs on its owner or other patrons. Protection from compelling speech is already well-established in the United States' common law.

The business owners already have protection from that, so the only issue that remains is if a business pa-

tron, simply being homosexual, is in conflict with an owner's religious beliefs. Maybe a person's religion does forbid a person from interacting with homosexuals. In that case, it would be the business owner's religion that conflicts with the rights of the patron.

This bill aims to support people who wish to oppress others based on religious reasons. Since the United States was founded, people in this country have worked hard to fight oppression, and this bill takes the nation about 10 steps backward.

"Does a person's freedom of religion trump a person's freedom from oppression?"

The Northwest Missourian

Caitlyn Burkemper, Graphic Artist
Cory Hunt, Graphic Artist

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The Miss Missouri pageant is June 4th – June 7th in Mexico, Mo. For more information on the contest just go to www.missmissouri.org

PAGEANT

CONTINUED FROM A1

looks. When I first thought about doing pageants, I just thought that it was catty girls.

"This is a great way to give back and show everyone how gracious people can be."

The Miss America organization is the world's leading supplier of scholarship aid for young women. Last year the program provided more than \$45 million dollars in scholarship assistance. Not only are the winners of this pageant granted with prize-money, but it is available to the 12,000 young women that compete in local competitions as well.

"By solely winning pageants, prize money paid for an entire semester of college for me," Fuhrman said. "These pageants aren't anything like what people see on 'Toddlers and Tiaras.' They are scholarship pageants that aid women with their educations."

Not only does the Miss America organization help with the financial portion of young women's education, the organization also supports their futures.

"I think pageants have prepared me in the interview aspect the most," Fuhrman said. "I can go into any room, filled with a diversity of people, and feel completely comfortable speaking on an issue. I know this will help me in the future when it is time to interview for a career."

McKee agrees that the pageant has helped her for future endeavors.

"This has prepared me for my future in so many ways," McKee said. "Pageants have brought me out of my shell and gave me confidence. If I can walk in a swimsuit in front of a crowd, then future job interviews should seem easy."

The interviews during the pageant are a large portion of what the contestants are judged on. They also go through swimsuit, formal and talent portions as well as an on-stage interview.

"Every competitor is extremely nice," Fuhrman said. "The atmosphere is like a mini-sorority. We all have a special bond because we all know what each other is going through. I will be genuinely happy for the girl that wins."

The friendly environment creates a positive experience for the competitors. McKee and Fuhrman have done their part in representing Northwest Missouri State University and the Miss America organization.

"I am just so proud of them," Wyatt said. "I'm very glad to be able to say they are a part of our pageant organization. Both of these girls epitomize what Miss America stands for, 'service, style, scholarship and success!'"

The next time the Miss America theme song begins to sound, Bearcats can gather around the tube to cheer on one of their own to possibly add another national title, and tiara, to the Northwest name.

CAMP

CONTINUED FROM A1

at least seven different times before camp got started."

For the seven-day camp, Smith dedicated herself to Racquel as her companion. Smith said the entire experience was revolved around Racquel. Despite the nerves, Racquel got over her fears quickly. Smith stuck by her side the entire time.

"If you're a companion, you do whatever your kid wants to do all day long," Smith said. "If you're deciding you want to be a companion, you have to make sure you're ready to know this isn't about you."

"This isn't you going to camp to have fun and get volunteer hours. It's 100 percent for the kids and you have to be selfless, or you won't make it fun for the kids."

Part of Smith's dedication included the interruption of activities for an emergency trip to Children's Mercy Hospital, sticking by Racquel.

"There was a point midweek she had her platelets tested, and they were really, really low," Smith said. "We weren't able to go to the aquatic center. She was kind of bummed because instead we had to go to Children's Mercy, and I went with her."

This trip let Smith witness firsthand the difficulties a child with cancer faces. Smith said she was fortunate enough not to have any family

members with cancer and had never seen up-close how someone could be affected by it.

"That was a terrible experience for me to see her that upset," she said, the pain showing on her face. "It was really horrible because I just saw super happy, positive Racquel then – bam – she was in a totally different environment, and she was super unhappy."

This shed a small sliver of light on what the families and campers experience during the illness.

"There are a lot of things out there trying to raise cancer for cancer research or find cures, and that's so important, but it's equally important to allow those families the experience of just getting to be part of a family again," Co-director Adam Nelson said. "We have parents, when they first find out their child's diagnosed, they sit there and they say, 'I'm all alone. What am I going to do?' They don't know what to do or how to support that, but Camp Quality provides that."

"I think it's just as equally important to let them remember they are people, and they need that support."

Once Racquel completed the platelet replacement treatment, she left the hospital life behind again, and Smith said she went right back to having a great week.

"I'm very happy to say that I can't think of a single kid that didn't have fun that week," Smith said, a smile

lighting up her face. "Not even just that they didn't have fun, but didn't have a lot of fun."

Established in Sydney, Australia, in 1983, Camp Quality came to the US in 1986 and Camp Quality NWMO held the first camp with 43 campers.

With an average of 100 campers each summer, Nelson and Co-director Gabe Bailey are tasked with caring for and providing a safe and in the same breath, fun environment for frailest-than-average children.

Nelson explained this task as theirs and theirs alone though, allowing campers to focus on a carefree week.

"What we provide is a place where these children can go, and for a week we try to do the best we can to ensure that they don't have to worry about those things, that they can focus on all of the things they might miss out on while they're going through treatment," he said.

Dedicating yourself to the camp and its campers is hard and is not for everyone. Nelson often hears hesitancy when some people consider getting involved.

"People say I don't know if I could do that, I don't know if I could be around these kids who are ill," he said. "I can't tell you what it's like. It's an experience. Once you step foot on the campgrounds, all of a sudden it's this feeling you get, and we recognize what we're there for."

Smith was one who felt this hesi-

tancy despite her previous experience as a relief counselor, because the role of companion is more demanding.

"When I got Racquel, I was super nervous because I'd never worked with a kid who was sick like that," she said. "I was nervous I wouldn't be sensitive to that. It's hard to not say the wrong thing to the kid when you know nothing about the condition."

Nelson said they don't "hover over the fact that these kids have cancer." The camp focuses on building relationships and allowing the campers to have fun.

"It's a magical feeling," he said. "For those that are like, 'I don't know if I can do this,' I tell them to come out for an hour, two hours, one day of the week and just see what it's about."

"I guarantee once they come out and see what it's about, they're hooked."

ONLINE



Head to nwmissourinews.com to read more about Emily's journey with Racquel at Camp Quality.

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Blotter from the Maryville Department of Public Safety

Feb. 18

James B. Swalley, 49, was charged with failure to register a motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility at the 800 block of East First Street.

Feb. 19

Buck T. Ramsey, 19, was charged with minor in possession at the 300 block of North Main Street.

Feb. 21

Jesse S. Watson, 19, Raytown, Mo., was charged with disorderly conduct at the 300 block of North Market Street.

Feb. 22

There is an ongoing investigation of trespassing at the 300 block of North Walnut Street.

There is an ongoing investigation of lost/stolen property at the 900 block of South Dunn Street.

There was a smoke investigation from a fire report at the 1800

block of Village O Drive.

An accident occurred between Mary Gage, 81, Stanberry, Mo., and Karen K. Klemme, 70, at the 1800 block of South Main Street. Klemme was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

Feb. 23

Jacob R. Taylor, 31, was charged with driving while intoxicated and improper display of license plate at the 200 block of West Ninth Street.

An accident occurred at unknown driver and Anne M. Haynes at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

An accident occurred between Alexander J. Snow, 17, and Hillary L. Snyder, 21, at the 500 block of West Second Street. Snow was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

Feb. 24
Brett J. Wilmes, 22, was wanted

on warrant for failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

There is an ongoing investigation of lost/stolen property at the 1100 block of East Thompson Street.

Feb. 25

There is an ongoing investigation of lost/stolen property at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

Jacob M. Kenny, 36, Skidmore, Mo., was charged with failure to register a motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility at the 400 block of West South Avenue.

Karthik Thumma, 23, was charged with driving without a valid drivers license at the 700 block of College Avenue.

Feb. 27

Benjamin C. Farrell, 19, was charged with minor in possession at the 300 block of East Third Street.

Feb. 28

Amberle A. Filley, 20, Skidmore, Mo., was charged with minor in possession and giving false information to a public service officer at the 1100 block of South Main Street.

Megan L. Farmer, 20, was charged with minor in possession and open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle at the 1100 block of South Main Street.

Alexander J. Gomel, 20, was charged with minor in possession and possession of an altered I.D. at the 1200 block of South Main Street.

Spencer A. Smith, 20, was charged with minor in possession and resisting arrest at the 300 block of North Market Street.

Cole M. Jones, 20, was charged with minor in possession at the 300 block of North Buchanan Street.

Dillon D. Poole, 22, Blue Springs, Mo., was charged with supplying alcohol to a minor at the 300 block of North Buchanan Street.

March 1
Brandon W. Fivecoat, 20, was charged with minor in possession at the 300 block of North Market Street.

An accident occurred between Tara D. Sullivan, 28, and Rebecca J. Siepel, 22, at the 100 block of East Edwards Street.

Blotter from the University Police Department

Feb. 28

A summons was issued for disorderly conduct at Lot 21.

A summons was issued for possession of marijuana at College Park Drive.

A summons was issued for minor in possession at Tower Suites.

March 1

Two summonses were issued for disorderly conduct at Franken Hall.

A summons was issued for possession of drug paraphernalia at Lot 10.

Blotter from the Nodaway County Sheriff's Office

Feb. 19

David W. Chase, 19, Maryville, Mo., was arrested for failure to appear and driving while revoked/suspended.

Feb. 22

Deputies found a subject in a vehicle that was not his. Jordan D. Chrisman, 22, Blue Springs, Mo., was arrested for tampering and resisting arrest.

Feb. 25

Mary J. Scott, 55, Maryville, Mo., was arrested for trespassing.

Deputies responded to an assault in Burlington Junction, Mo. Brian A. Fuller, 38, Burling-

ton Junction, Mo., was arrested for assault.

Feb. 26

A subject reported property damage in Skidmore, Mo. Timothy B. Clark, 34, Skidmore, Mo.,

was arrested for property damage.

Chance M. Cardwell, 18, St. Joseph, Mo., was arrested for property violation and theft.

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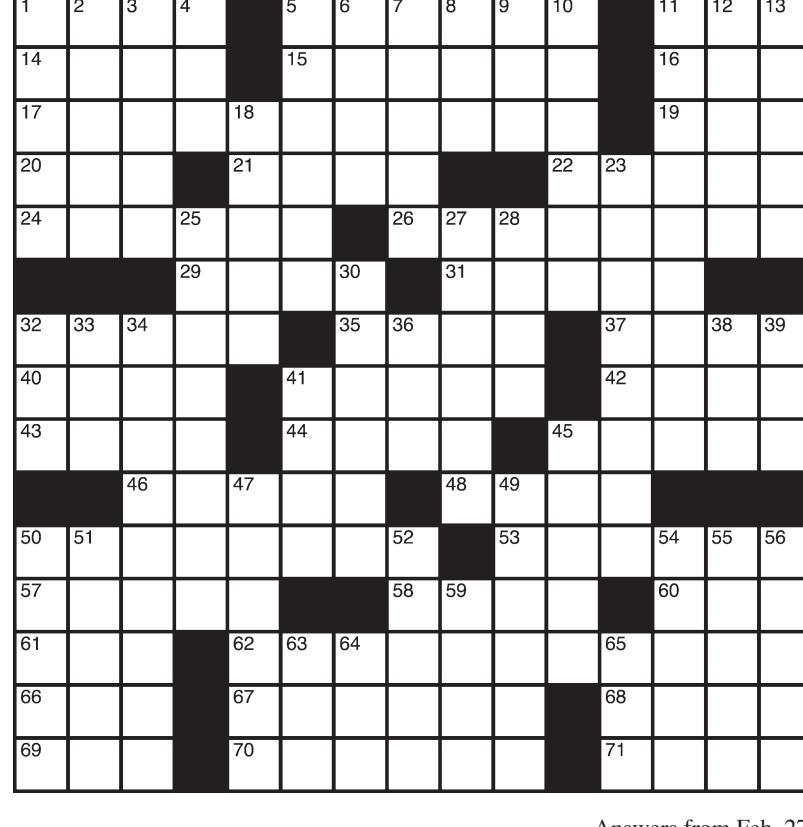
By Peter A Collins

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Across
1 '90s-'00s first baseman Martinez
5 Batter like the wind
11 Best in a game
14 Whole thing, or its part
15 Maroon
16 Old ring leader?
17 Article about a bottle of whisky?
19 Bar in the shower
20 Blowup cause
21 Prefix with bound
22 Loud salute
24 Bird's-eye view provider
26 Folksy
29 Bar in the kitchen
31 Composer/conductor Boulanger
32 Macy's competitor
35 Black, to Jacques
37 Hardly a back rd.
40 Walked
41 Autobiography?
42 Unwanted growth
43 One born unfree
44 Beaver's expletive?
45 Antarctic phenomena
46 They can make good impressions
48 Start to get going
50 Seriously involved
53 Antarctic phenomenon
57 Get going
58 Downwind
60 Put in service
61 Service-related: Abbr.
62 Essay for grammar class?
66 That niña
67 Faddish
68 King with a notable nape
69 King of Spain
70 Den piece
71 They evolved from wasp-like ancestors

Down
1 New England school with a campus in the French Alps
2 Indelibly
3 Peachy-keen
4 Cooperstown's Mel
5 Evolved into
6 Juan's "some"
7 Laundry challenge
8 Seminoles' sch.
9 Certain leaf beetle's target
10 Became anxious



11 Report on the site of the Humpty-Dumpty tragedy?
12 Candy heart message
13 "___ in China": John Adams opera
18 Makes sound
23 So to speak
25 Cause of a sudden withdrawal
27 Shallot relatives
28 Dog-ear, e.g.
30 Hoping to score
32 Valuable rock nos.
33 Rock with promise
34 Drama about Trigger?
36 Tuba player's mantra?
38 Suds holder
39 Mag wheels?
41 Like a bump on a log
45 ___ curls
47 Accepts, as a resolution
49 Eye-popping shirt
50 ___ Rouge
51 Tumult
52 Manet's medium
54 Bring up to speed
55 Race site for 300+ years
56 Rounded hand-tool parts

Answers from Feb. 27

E	L	U	D	E	T	O	A	D	Y	H	A	H
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JOHN WANG

QUING ZHENG

Bring on an entire new world: Cousin follows in family member's footsteps for college living

HALEY VICKERS

Features Editor | @Hay_day

Image yourself, thousands of miles from home in a world that is nothing you have ever seen before. Strange, new people, different languages and fresh experiences. Confusion and anxiety overwhelm you as people pass by in the hustle and bustle of the present day America. Millions of new faces and incidents to participate in, the rush of the contemporary world.

People say, "There is no place like home," but is it possible to feel the comfort of home when you're 7,029 miles away? For cousins John Wang and Qing Zheng, making this long journey is not so much of a challenge when they have each other.

This pair of goofball cousins wouldn't trade their opportunity to travel and study abroad for the world.

They can be found studying in the library, hanging out in the JW Jones Student Union together, or with their shared friends in Franken Hall. These cousins help each other out, speak Chinese with each other and gossip about their common relatives, such as their shared grandma.

Zheng looks up to Wang and follows him around campus learning the tricks of the trade from the family member who has been here for a semester already. She keeps up with the college lingo and society through her cousin, who has taught her how to make it in small-town USA.

Wang made his journey to Northwest to study accounting, which he couldn't do in China. Little did he know, his cousin would follow closely in his footsteps, literally. Zheng, who's studying economics, became a Bearcat this spring, following her family member halfway around the world.

"I am not as ambitious as my cousin,"

Zheng said. "He introduced the school to me, and my mom is worried about me. She thinks if I come here, I need someone to take care of me. So it was a good choice. My cousin is here. I follow him all the time."

The twist in the cousins' story is that they met each other for the first time about a year ago. They are from the same province in China, but never really got to know one another until they met at a family dinner and then ventured to Northwest together, really connecting.

Wang and Zheng are grateful for their life here knowing that they would not have had the chance to choose their subject of study in China. And they are thankful to have one another to rely on in this unfamiliar atmosphere.

"I went here for the first semester, and I found it was a really good place to study and to get to know a new country," Wang said. "A good place to get used to another environment. In comparison with Chinese universities, I think there are a lot more opportunities in America. Somethings we learn here are way better than in Chinese Universities...I can actually choose my major, which I really like."

Wang introduced his cousin to Northwest the first time they met. Zheng says her mother worries about her occasionally, since this is her first semester abroad, but is more comfortable knowing she has her trustworthy cousin to rely on for anything.

"With the help of people and my cousin, I can get used to it," Zheng said. "I told my mom not to worry about me. I'm good."

Wang and Zheng agreed that if you're cousins in China, usually you don't get very close because most families live in different cities, and it's hard to get around. But these two have built a strong friendship since they have started in this whole new world.

"They are Chinese students, so we don't have a lot of that population," said Ashley

Henggeler, international affairs coordinator. "I think there are around 40 students, so it probably does help a lot to have (a cousin) here. It's someone they can relate to customs-wise, and probably having someone here that has already been here for a semester will help them learn the area, the campus, the city itself."

Faculty can see how having a family member on campus can be a positive and negative thing. It is great for networking and learning but, they worry that the cousins might become too attached and forget to branch out in this new culture.

"Having a family member here, you would be more trusting of their opinion," Henggeler said. "Maybe not knowing each other their whole lives until this last year, it is a great opportunity for them to get to know each other."

It took awhile for Wang and Zheng to get used to the English language here. It was one of the most difficult hurdles for both of them when they came to America. If Zheng ever stumbles with her English, Wang is there to help her out and tell her how to pronounce her newly learned terms.

"There are not a lot of Chinese students here," Wang said. "From one aspect, it forces you to embrace a new culture and speak English. But in the other aspect, your Chinese cannot be practiced...this semester my cousin is here, so I can speak to someone in Chinese, and it's a good thing."

"The toughest barrier is the slang. The teenage terminologies. I'm just kind of like, 'what are you talking about?' but you get to know more people, and as time goes by you get used to it and you kind of enjoy it."

Wang has adjusted to the English language, but occasionally Zheng still struggles with terminology since she has only lived here for about two months.

"The first time I came here, my first thought was 'they speak so fast!'" Zheng said "...but now I feel better because I have been here almost two months."

Wang and Zheng are both overly involved with their school work this semester. They are both taking a big load of credit hours. They don't hang out everyday, but they catch up and help each other out whenever they need one another.

"It's good he is here," Zheng said. "My English is not very good, and sometimes I need my cousin's help. If I have a problem with my studies or in new situations, I need someone to help me."

After exploring options of where to study and start their college careers, the cousins decided Northwest was the home away from home for them.

"My chemistry teacher introduced an interviewer for Northwest, and then she thought I was qualified," Wang said. "And I chose to come here. And I met a lot of former Bearcats and got to know them. Northwest is good for Chinese students....(at other universities) it's hard to get out of the Chinese group and you can barely practice your English or get to know the culture more."

When Wang and Zheng met up to speak about Northwest at the beginning of their friendship, they never thought they would be so close in the future. They never even imagined they would live on the same floor in Franken Hall.

"I told her 'Northwest is good,'" Wang said. "...You can learn the things you're interested in. It's a blessing. Why not choose Northwest?"

Pharrell's 'GIRL' leaves fans happy

SAMI KRETZER

Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

No matter your age or preference in music genres, Pharrell Williams will persuade you to jump up and dance it out to his new album, "G I R L."

With featured artists such as Justin Timberlake, Miley Cyrus and Alicia Keys, Williams provides a funky new album that will leave you, like his single states, "happyyyyyyyy!"

It seems like up until this point, Williams has been the go-to guy when it comes to picking whom you want to be featured in your singles and albums. He has been featured with artists such as Jay-Z, Daft Punk, Snoop Dogg and Robin Thicke in the past. However, William's newest al-

bum proves he's no longer just the "second-most important guy."

Williams' sophomore album hit the markets March 3. Williams' debut solo album, released in 2006, was titled "In My Mind."

This debut album reached number three on the Billboard 200 within the first week of being released, a quite impressive rookie album.

William's lead single, "Happy," was released Nov. 21 and is the most popular song on the track. This song can be heard on the "Despicable Me 2" soundtrack album.

"Happy" has been climbing the Billboard Hot 100 chart since being released and has sold more than a million copies in the United Kingdom.

It is nearly impossible to get

"Happy" out of your head after listening to it. It's like glue, and once you start listening, there's no turning back, you're hooked. Once you manage to get past "Happy," and on to the rest of the album, Williams' keeps the ball rolling with his consistently funky, fresh style.

Williams' strategically-chosen collaborative artists give him an added edge. Miley Cyrus' increasing popularity and controversy will provide their song, "Come Get it Bae," with what it takes to climb the charts, no doubt. The song "Brand New," that Williams performs with help of Justin Timberlake is also sure to impress. Timberlake's falsetto vocals are a nice addition to the eccentric album.

He sings, "Honey, you got me feelin' brand new/You got me feelin'



WWW.TUXBOARD.COM



Rating: 4/5

Artist: Pharrell Williams

Album: G I R L

Release Date: March 3, 2014

Confession: Rain Man stole my heart

HALEY VICKERS

Features Editor

@Hay_dayy

So...I have a confession to make, and I'm not very proud of it. I, Haley Vickers, am extremely movie deprived. A classic movie virgin. To be honest, most of the movies people watch, I haven't even heard of. My fellow Missourian staff members are beyond embarrassed by my lack of common knowledge of the great films I am so helplessly missing out on. So, for purely educational purposes they are feeding me a "classic movie," every week to watch.

These are the films you curl up with late at night and watch over and over again as you eat ice cream straight from the tub, I'm assuming. Or at least that's what I picture myself doing in the near future.

So, after 19 years of being completely ignorance to these movie masterpieces, my time is now.

So, let's get down to business. My first confession of an unseen movie is 'Rain Man' starring Tom Cruise and Dustin Hoffman.

The first comment I have to make is Tom Cruise is too fine. I'm sad to say this is the first movie I have ever watched with Tom Cruise in it. There will definitely be many more in the future, though. Man candy is always a plus. No wonder he's all the rage.

This film is not at all what I expected it to be. The storyline is actually

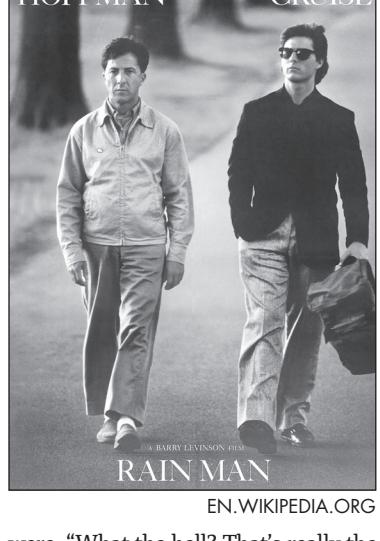
pretty elaborate and kept me pretty entertained the entire time. Charlie (Cruise) gets a call about his father's death as he is leaving for the weekend with his girlfriend. After his father's funeral, Charlie runs across someone he never even thought existed...he brother.

Raymond is Charlie's older brother, who has autism. Throughout the movie he says cute, bashful things that spread a smile across my face. I was also intrigued with how well Raymond could figure simple math. That man can count, ladies and gentlemen.

At first Charlie is just using Raymond to get the money from his father's will, but after they spend a week traveling together, they actually realize there is a bit of a bromance forming. The sweetest part of this movie is when Charlie is teaching Raymond to slow dance. Brought tears to my eyes...not really. But I was on the verge, that's how adorable it is.

The funniest part of the movie is when Charlie and Raymond are smushed together in an old-time phone booth while Charlie is making a business call. Raymond farts and stinks up the whole joint. Charlie could barely breathe! This made me laugh, mostly because I'm immature and think anything about farts or pooping is funny. But the facial expressions of both of the actors is perfect for the situation.

To say the least, this movie was just too darn cute. A little bit of romance, brotherly love and an all around good story. The only negative thing that really irritated me was the ending. I wanted more. No, I take that back. I needed more. My exact words



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were, "What the hell? That's really the end, people?"

I need a movie with a big bang and that's the end. But there was no bang. And this left for a sad, sad Haley.

But hey, my very first classic movie was a success. And I can now say that I have watched a Tom Cruise film and am informed of who the "Rain Man" is.



Rating: 3.5/5
Movie: Rain Man
Won Best Picture in 1988
Starring:
Tom Cruise and
Dennis Hoffman

WHAT'S NOT

Voting tabled

Maryville City Council decided to table the voting of eight city ordinances. Several of these will decide the future night-life for students at Northwest.

'How I Met Your Mother' wrap up

Last Friday the hit TV Series "How I Met Your Mother" filmed its last episode. The actors were sad to part ways. The last episode will air March 31.

Jennifer falls again

The hilarious Lawrence fell again on the red carpet this year. She is not the most graceful human being on earth. The actress randomly tripped, and it was even caught on camera.

WHAT'S HOT

Spring Break

We are so close, yet so far away. Just three more weeks until 2014 Spring Break. Everyone needs a breather from tests, lectures and homework in general.

Sarah speaks out

Sarah Jessica Parker says that female celebrities these days are "Pretty unfriendly to one another." She also claimed that her "Sex in the City" days were a more innocent time for the actress.

The Pub is back

Everyone's favorite 21-and-over bar is back and better than ever. Look out, Maryville, the thirst is no longer upon us.

The Stroller: Your Man gives lots of tips

So, I don't remember much of Friday night, but what I do remember is heading over to Molly's Dance Club to have some drinks with my friends. I approached the bar with a buddy of mine, and I ordered a pitcher of Long Island Iced Tea (because, you know, I go hard like that). And before we headed back to our table, I dropped a five spot into the glass jar they have there at the bar.

He looks at me, somewhat buzzed already, and asks, "The hell you doing? You really tipping her? C'mon, man, it's a bar; they get a lot of money already."

Now, we all know that Your Man gets into a lot of trouble for stupid crap he says, but I wasn't raised on not tipping at a place of business.

So I look at this stupid jerk, and raise up fist for a scare tactic, and I say, "Look, man, if you don't want to drink some of this, then get your own damn drink, otherwise shut your mouth about who I can and can't tip."

(By the way, he's from Mo West, so that makes me more embarrassed to be around him.)

I can't believe people these days never tip. He later decided to leave with a girl to go somewhere else—hopefully leaving for that ass-back-

wards place they call a university.

I stumbled my way over to meet up with more friends of mine down at my favorite watering hole: The Palms. (If The Pub was open, I'd be back there, but sadly, it's not...yet).

I make my way over to the bar and order myself a fresh cup of their delicious Captain and Coke, cause Your Man is no lightweight. I hand the cute bartender (you know who you are cutie), a 10 piece and tell her to keep the change since she's smokin'.

Then, all of a sudden, I get more crap from this drunk next to me thinking he's Stone Cold Steve Austin.

This five-foot stump of a man suffers from SMS (Short Man Syndrome). He looks up to Your Man and acts tough by criticizing how nice I am to people for pouring my drink. This winner can't even stand. His friends pick him up and drag him out to be driven home.

What I still don't understand is that people these days don't leave tips like they used to. It's easy, people. Quit being a bum, for the love of God, and tip your damn server.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.



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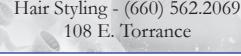
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COOPER SELECTED AS MIAA PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Senior guard DeShaun Cooper was selected as the MIAA Player of the Year after averaging 16.6 points per game for the co-MIAA regular season champions. Cooper was also voted to the All-MIAA First Team.

CORE

CONTINUED FROM A12

Schechinger – and top four rebounders – Mathews, Easton, Schechinger and freshman forward Shelby Mustain – from this season.

The conference coaches selected Easton to the All-MIAA Third Team, and Mathews earned honorable mention status.

Nelson was 16th in the conference in scoring, the highest scorer not selected to any All-MIAA team, although Smith said he nominated the sharp-shooting guard who also

finished third in the league in three-point percentage.

"We don't vote on our own players, but she was nominated," Smith said. "I thought she had good enough stats to at least make the honorable mention slot. I'm really proud of her for really stepping up and playing with a chip (on her shoulder).

"It's unfortunate that we didn't have a whole lot of other players that matched that."

That is where the chip-on-the-shoulder, us-against-the-world mentality kicks in for Northwest. Barring any unforeseen events, the

program will return its head coach for the first time in three seasons.

Smith said the RiverHawks had the chip on their shoulder Monday night after losing their previous six contests, but next year just might be the Bearcats' turn.

"We've gotta really get back to building a quality program," Smith said. "We've seen it first-hand from the (Northwest men's basketball team)... If kids stick together for three or four or five years, good things can happen. I know that's exactly what's gonna happen with the women's basketball program."

SPORTS BRIEF:

Men garner All-MIAA honors

Five Northwest players received regular season recognition after finishing the season tied for the MIAA title with a 21-7 record.

Headlining the regular-season accolades is senior point guard DeShaun Cooper, who garnered MIAA Player of the Year honors along with a unanimous First Team selection after averaging 16.6 points per game and 4.2 assists per game.

Cooper was an All-MIAA First Team selection during his 2011-12 junior campaign.

Forward Zach Schneider was se-

lected as the MIAA Freshman of Year after averaging 7.5 points per game and shooting 46 percent from behind the arc.

Senior Bryston Williams also received conference honors after being placed on the All-Defensive Team and Second Team after averaging 10.1 points per game and 1.4 steals per game.

Senior forward Dillon Starzl joined Williams on the Second Team, while sophomore Conner Crooker earned Honorable Mention status.

SOLIDIFY

CONTINUED FROM A12

likely face Missouri Southern in the semis, a team Northwest split the season series with.

In all likelihood, if Ben McCollum's squad can make it past the first two tests, it would be squared up for a rematch of last year's conference championship game with Central Missouri.

The recent history is there between the Mules and Bearcats: Central claimed the 2013 tournament championship game, which would have gifted an automatic berth to Northwest for the national tournament.

The two sides split this season's pair of matchups as well as the regular

season MIAA title.

Last year's Cinderella run nearly boosted the Bearcats to the promised land. While Northwest doesn't require that type of magic to reach Selection Sunday this year, another streak to the championship wouldn't hurt its stock.

The Bearcats aren't tops in the region at this point, and likely won't be. They're a threat in the national conversation and have a fighter's chance in the Central Region.

As the second seed in one of the region's best conferences, the Bearcats can't exactly play the underdog role like last year and won't be called a 'diamond in the rough' if they sweep this weekend.

But come Sunday, they might just have some diamonds of their own.

COACH K

CONTINUED FROM A12

player in senior forward Trent Nally, the long-tenured coach may have his hand forced to step down as head coach of the Maryville basketball team.

"They feel - our school district, our administration - feels it's time for a change, and that's what I was told," Kuwitzky said. "And they thought that's what was best. That's what I was told."

Kuwitzky would still teach at the high school, but the evidence of how respected he is as a coach among his peers and players is relevant in the way the team continued to battle in a seemingly lost season. The Spoofhounds lost 59-56 late in the year to eventual district champion Bishop LeBlond on a desperation three-pointer before knocking off Cameron 54-42 in the first round of district play.

"He always got the most out of his team and his kids," Maryville Athletic Director Paul Snow said. "I've seen him beat some teams that we have no business being in the game with. He's out-coached a lot of different coaches in his career. We had less talent, but he still finds a way to win games."

The decision to possibly knock Kuwitzky off the coaching pedestal is not official, nor could it be discussed by Snow and Larry Linthacum, superintendent of the Maryville School District. But Kuwitzky said he was told that his contract would not be renewed come April. And it certainly was not

his decision.

"I was surprised to hear it...but they have the right to do it," Kuwitzky said. "That's what their right is. They can make decisions like that, and it appears they have."

Linthacum declined to give an immediate answer to the situation.

"I can't (confirm it or quash it)," Linthacum said. "No action has been taken by the board, and we do not have a letter of resignation at this time."

"We assess our coaches in April. Our April board meeting is when our high school administration will be making our recommendations. That's planned on being discussed...April 15."

Come April, the school board will assess not only a Hall of Fame coach with nine separate, 20-plus-win seasons, but a coach who guides his players from boys to adults as they enter the next phase of life.

"He's done wonders," Snow said. "He's helped (the players) grow up a little bit and mature as they go through high school and gets them ready for the real world afterwards."

And Kuwitzky will continue to teach, because, above all the accolades he has earned throughout his career at the helm for the Spoofhounds, he cherishes the relationships he's developed with his players and coaches the most.

"It's just a great feeling knowing you can make such a positive impact on these kids," Kuwitzky said. "Whenever a former player comes back to talk to you, to tell you thanks, that's the reason I love to coach."

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NW MEN'S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
Central Mo.	24-4	16-3
NORTHWEST	21-7	16-3
Mo. Southern	21-5	15-4
Fort Hays	22-6	13-6
Central Okla.	18-9	11-8
Washburn	17-10	10-9
Emporia St.	18-12	10-9
Nebraska Kearney	15-12	10-9
Northeastern St.	15-12	9-10
Southwest Baptist	14-15	7-12
Lindenwood	11-19	6-13
Mo. Western	10-18	5-14
Pitt. St.	8-18	4-15
Lincoln	3-24	1-18

March 7:

#1 Central Mo. vs. #9 Northeastern St.
#4 Fort Hays vs. #5 Central Okla.
#2 NORTHWEST vs. #7 Emporia St.
#3 Mo. Southern vs. #6 Neb. Kearney

NW WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
Central Mo.	23-3	17-2
Emporia St.	25-3	16-3
Pitt. St.	23-6	16-3
Mo. Southern	19-7	13-6
Fort Hays	20-7	12-7
Washburn	16-11	11-8
Lindenwood	14-13	9-10
Northeastern St.	11-16	7-12
NORTHWEST	10-17	7-12
Central Okla.	12-15	6-13
Southwest Baptist	12-15	6-13
Nebraska Kearney	10-17	6-13
Mo. Western	10-16	5-14
Lincoln	5-21	2-17

March 6:

#1 Central Mo. vs. #9 Northeastern St.
#4 Mo. Southern vs. #5 Fort Hays
#2 Emporia St. vs. #10 Central Okla.
#3 Pittsburg St. vs. #11 S.W. Baptist

MHS BOYS' BASKETBALL

MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Lafayette	20-4	7-0
Savannah	13-9	4-2
Chillicothe	14-9	3-2
Smithville	13-12	4-3
Bishop LeBlond	15-11	2-3
Benton	4-20	2-5
MARYVILLE	6-18	2-6
Cameron	5-21	1-4

March 5: (results unavailable)
Bishop LeBlond vs. Barstow

MHS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

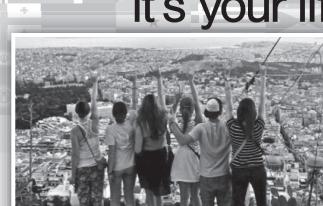
MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Smithville	22-6	6-1
Cameron	23-5	5-2
Chillicothe	15-9	5-2
Benton	16-6	5-2
Bishop LeBlond	17-8	3-4
Lafayette	17-8	3-4
MARYVILLE	7-21	1-7
Savannah	5-16	1-7

March 5: (results unavailable)
Cameron vs. Hogan Prep

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